

It was quite evident that this college president had given considerable thought to this problem and he presented a statement of policy unanimously approved by his Board of Trustees relating to the matter of visiting speakers.

The impression and contribution thus made started the Commission on its way to the action it finally took, that of recommending that the Trustees of each of our institutions adopt a statement of policy on this matter.

As stated above, representatives of two of our very fine Veterans organizations appeared before us, representatives of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The fact is that there are men with distinguished service records on both sides of this controversy. I shall not attempt to mention the war record of all who appeared at the public hearings in opposition to the Speaker Ban Law but will mention three.

The first is a well known lawyer and educator who was a rifle battalion commander in an infantry division in World War II. He was involved in three major engagements in Europe and was awarded the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and the Legion of Merit. The second that I mention is a prominent Charlotte physician who was an Air Force pilot in World War II who engaged in thirty combat missions over Europe. He is a 1947 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and served as president of the Student Body.

The third one I mention was the most impressive of all and I refer to Colonel Samuel I. Parker of Concord, North Carolina. I do not know his politics but my guess is that it is different from mine. He is a 1917 graduate of UNC, fought in the trenches in France during World War I and earned the Silver Star, Distinguished Service Cross and the Congressional Medal of Honor. He was the first man to receive all three of these awards and he appeared before our Commission and pleaded for the repeal of the Speaker Ban Law.

It is now appropriate that we consider the alternatives to changing this law.

In the first place, the unrest will increase and there is no doubt in my mind that the Communists will be the beneficiaries of the unrest. All of us know that Communism thrives on unrest, turmoil and conflict and it is certain that there is joy in Communist headquarters over the unrest prevailing in North Carolina because of this law. If this law is unchanged, *all* twelve of the institutions of higher learning supported by the State will suffer. Accreditation or loss of accreditation is merely a factor in this matter. It is well for us that the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools has become domesticated in North Carolina to the end that if litigation should ever become necessary it might be tried here in North Carolina rather than in Georgia. On the other hand, regardless of the outcome of litigation, our schools would suffer as a result of such litigation.

Our University at Chapel Hill has a great history and is destined for an even greater future. North Carolina State University has earned for itself a place of distinction and if unhampered will move on to become one of the greatest institutions in the free world. As a member of the Advisory